

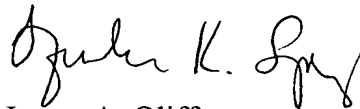
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 9, 14 and 15 are amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Since the application has been amended to address the formal issues raised in the Office Action, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
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Jaquelin K. Spong  
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JAO:JKS/scg

Date: February 6, 2004

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